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As Dr. Cooley maintains, it is the formulation of a comprehensive theory of rates, and not the question of public or private ownership that lies at the basis of the transportation problem.

The book is thoroughly suggestive. The author attempts only to state and analyze the problems of transportation, and not to solve them. His conclusions are conservative, and for that reason of real value. The absence of all pretence of stating a panacea for railway troubles, gives the work genuine scientific merit. This first earnest attempt of an American economist to discuss transportation from an economic standpoint gives promise that our transportation literature will be of greater value in the future than it has been in the past. The subject of transportation has been studied too much as a technical, and too seldom as an economic problem. This monograph is cast in the right mould.

EMORY R. JOHNSON.

Three Months in a Workshop: a Practical Study. By PAUL GÖHRE, General Secretary of the Evangelical Social Congress. Translated from the German, by A. B. CARR, with a prefatory note by Professor Richard T. Ely. Pp. 219. Price, 2s. 6d. London: Swan, Sonnenschein & Co., 1895.

It is said that an ounce of fact is worth a ton of theory, and Pastor Göhre's practical study of factory life in Germany will convince many readers that the saying is something more than a platitude. The genesis of this unique little work is noteworthy. During his student years as a theologian Herr Göhre found himself drawn powerfully toward the study of social questions. Dissatisfied, however, with a purely theoretical consideration of them, and conceiving this to be at best superficial and illusory, he determined before completing his theological course to cultivate close acquaintance with industrial conditions by living the life, and doing the work of a factory operative in his native Saxony. Of the three months devoted to this unusual life, doubtless the three most fertile in useful knowledge of social problems which he has ever spent, this book is an intelligent and instructive record. Here the German workman is pictured as he "*lebt und webt*," as the national saying runs. He stands before us, with all his excellencies, with all his defects; at his work, at his play, in his home, in his club, at the ball, at the drinking board. It is deeply interesting to follow Pastor Göhre as he discovers for us the mental and moral constitution of those who were his colleagues in the workshop. He appears to have met men of every grade and shade of character—men of strong intelligence and unswerving rectitude, and men who did but little honor to their order.

But almost all were alike in this—that they were socialists, and regarded the social democratic state not as a dream but as a practicable ideal. Of course he found the working classes permeated by discontent, but it was a discontent which had a nobler basis than mere greed. The result of his observations was a conviction that the labor question is not merely a bread and butter question, but an intellectual and moral question of the first moment. He found existing, on the part of the whole class of factory operatives, “an ardent longing for more respect and recognition, for greater actual and social equality in distinction to the formal and political equality which is already theirs,” and in accordance with this a “deep desire to be no longer, in the coming industrial order, merely the dumb and passive instruments of a superior will ; no longer obedient machines, but men ; not hands alone, but heads.” Of what Pastor Göhre says regarding the irreligion which he found amongst the working classes, and regarding his conception of the Church’s duty in relation to social questions, this is hardly the place to speak.

The whole volume, however, will repay thoughtful and repeated perusal. The great light which it throws upon many obscure sides of the great, complex social problem which Germany, like other countries, is facing to-day, is simply invaluable.

The translation seems to have been successfully done.

WILLIAM HARBUTT DAWSON.

Town Life in the Fifteenth Century. By Mrs. J. R. GREEN. 2 vols. Pp. 441 and 476. Price, \$5.00. New York and London : Macmillan & Co., 1894.

Mrs. Green’s work had been announced for some time before its appearance, and was looked for with considerable interest. Several claims to attention combined to lead scholars, even more than general readers, to expect a book of more than usual importance. In a certain sense Mrs. Green’s work was the continuation of her husband’s. In fact the present volumes she explains to be a development of the ideas of a well-known chapter in the *History of the English People*. His great influence on the reading and study of English history has been very generally recognized to have been deprived of its full effect by his early death, and in this work that influence might fairly be expected to continue. Secondly, the phase of history treated of is rapidly becoming the dominant aspect of historical study. It seems that the most original, most productive and most promising English historical work is, for the present, at least, being done in economic history ; and a careful study of the organization and life of the towns